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COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES FROM THE TERRITORIES OF THE BALTIC STATES

Letter dated 3 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the French and English versions of the statement on the complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territories of the Baltic States issued on 1 September 1993 by the European Community and its member States.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of its annex circulated as a General Assembly document under item 32 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of
Belgium to the United Nations

* A/48/150 and Corr.1.

Annex

Statement on the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltic States issued on 1 September 1993 by the European Community and its member States

The European Community and its member States welcome the completion of the withdrawal of Russian troops from Lithuania in accordance with the Russian/Lithuanian agreement of 8 September 1992, the joint Russian/Lithuanian declaration of 30 August 1993 and paragraph 15 of the Helsinki final document of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). They acknowledge the efforts made in recent days by the Russian Federation and Lithuania, in particular by Presidents Yeltsin and Brazauskas, to resolve the problems relating to troop withdrawals. The Community and its member States welcome the proposed meeting between Presidents Yeltsin and Brazauskas. They hope that the fact that the troop withdrawals have now been completed will enable the Russian Federation and Lithuania to open a new chapter in their bilateral relations. They believe that the completion of withdrawals from Lithuania will make an important contribution to stability and security in northern Europe.

The Community and its member States now hope that the Russian Federation will accept and implement timetables for early and complete withdrawal from Estonia and Latvia, in accordance with the CSCE Helsinki final document, without linkage to other problems. The Community and its member States call on the Russian Federation and Estonia and Latvia, respectively, to resolve all outstanding problems relating to troop withdrawals through dialogue held in a constructive and flexible manner, in particular at the highest political level.